

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SOFIA 00897 091022Z

17

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 080903Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9548

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 0897

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,HXU

SUBJECT: US-BULGARIAN RELATIONS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN FROM AMBASSADOR

1. ONE OF THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING CALLED HOME FOR CONSULTATION IS THAT IT AFFORDS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR BROAD TOUR D'HORIZON WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER. I HAD THIS MAY 7, AND BELIEVE IT HELPED TO MOVE SOME THINGS FORWARD THAT ARE IN OUR INTEREST. IT ALSO BROUGHT OUT, HOWEVER, FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THAT LEVEL, A POLITE BUT NEAR COMPLAINT FROM MLADENOV (HE CALLED IT "AN UNPLEASANT PROBLEM") THAT HIS AMBASSADOR HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO SEE THE SECRETARY.

2. BURDEN OF MLADENOV'S REMARKS WAS THAT WHEN WE ARE TALKING ABOUT NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS IT IS NOT UNREASONABLE TO EXPECT THAT THE BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARY "AT LEAST FOR A PROTOCOL CALL". I BELIEVE FIVE MINUTES FOR THIS WOULD BE ADEQUATE AND RECOMMEND REMOVING THIS ANOMALY IN OUR RELATIONS.
HERZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC PROTOCOL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SOFIA00897
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750162-1076
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750569/aaaacbf.tel
Line Count: 48
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 SEP 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-BULGARIAN RELATIONS FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN FROM AMBASSADOR
TAGS: PDIP, HU, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006